

REMARKS

Claims 21-35 and 38-42 are currently pending. Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the above amendments and the following remarks, and pass the application to allowance.

Response to Office Action:

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 112:

Claim 38 was objected to because of informalities. Claim 38 has been amended to correct the informality.

Specification:

The title of the invention has been amended to "An alarm clock" to be more indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102:

Claims 21-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gormley (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,627).

Claims 21 and 38 have been amended to further recite that "the controller provides an auditory cue upon a change in the amount of light if an alarm configured to provide the auditory cue has not been activated," and "wherein the controller provides an auditory cue or visual cue upon a change in the amount of light if the alarm has not been activated," respectively.

Gormley relates to an electronic device that stores audio messages entered by the user onto digital chips. Each recorded message is addressed with a chronological code that enables a microprocessor to access the memos according to specific times. When the code used to record the memo matches the current time and day or date, the memo is downloaded into an immediate access file.

As shown in Gormley, the device may also include a light sensor to activate a given message when ambient lights are turned off. Gormley, however, does not teach or suggest a device that "provides an auditory cue upon a change in the

amount of light if an alarm adapted to provide the auditory cue has not been activated. Rather, the light sensor in Gormley plays memos when one turns off the lights in the room. Col. 2, line 49 – col. 3, line 4. Accordingly, since Gormley does not teach or suggest that the memos are associated with the setting of an alarm, Claims 21- 30 and 38-41 should be allowable.

Claim 31 recites "[a]n apparatus configured to sense changes in light intensity comprising: a photosensitive cell configured to sense changes in an amount of light in a room; and a controller configured to receive information from the photosensitive cell, wherein the controller provides an auditory or visual cue upon a change in the amount of light; and a transceiver configured to send a wireless signal to another apparatus, wherein the wireless signal contains a message."

As set forth in Gormley, the device "can also deliver messages over the phone." Col. 4, lines 11-12. Gormley, however, does not suggest or teach a transceiver configured to send a wireless signal to another apparatus, wherein the wireless signal contains a message. Accordingly, Claim 31 should be allowable. Claims 32-35 are dependent from Claim 31 and should also be allowable.

New Claims 41 and 42:

New Claims 41 and 42 recite a transceiver configured to send a wireless signal to another apparatus, wherein the wireless signal contains a message. As set forth above, Gormley does not teach or suggest a transceiver configured to send a wireless signal, wherein the wireless signal contains a message. Accordingly, Claims 41 and 42 should be allowable.

Conclusion:

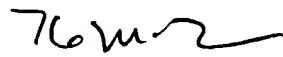
Since none of the art cited teaches an alarm clock or apparatus having a photosensitive cell that senses a change in the amount of light and a controller, wherein the controller provides an auditory and or visual cue upon a change in the amount of light in the room, if the alarm has not been activated and/or provides a transceiver configured to send a wireless signal, Claims 21-35 and 38-42 should be allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 21-35 and 38-42 are presently in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is requested. If, however, any matters remain that could be clarified by Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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